AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 of page 3 as follows:

The exhaust extension has an end that is secure to the other end of the U-joint and an exhaust opening. Exhaust and sound from the silencer is transmitted through the discharge opening in the adaptor, through the exhaust passage, the U-joint and the exhaust extension and out to the atmosphere through the exhaust opening. As such, ~~any~~ some of the sound traveling with the exhaust exiting the exhaust port of the chamber will be out of phase with ~~any~~ some of the sound exiting the exhaust opening. This out of phase action of the sound results in reduced decibel levels.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 23 of page 4 as follows:

Referring now to Figs. 1-5 and as best shown in Figs. 1 and 2, there is shown an exhaust system sound-reducing component 10 for use with an off-road vehicle 100. The component 10 includes an adapter 12, an exhaust extension 14 and a U-joint 16 that connects the adapter 12 with the extension 14. The component 10 is constructed of a flexible sound-deadening and heat-resistant material (e.g., vehicle approved tubing). However, various other metals, composites and combinations thereof can be used in constructing the present invention. The component 10 has a generally tubular construction such that exhaust and sound is communicated from the adapter 12, through the U-joint 16 and out the extension 14. As used herein, the term "off-road vehicle" includes, but is not limited to motorcycles, three or four wheel all-terrain vehicles, watercraft (including ~~jet-skies~~ jet-skis), snowmobiles and dune buggies. Furthermore, while the adapter 12, extension 14 and U-joint 16 are discussed as separate subassemblies, it will be appreciated that the component 10 may also be constructed as a single integral unit.

Please amend the abstract as shown on the following page.